

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of First Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (461) of these admissions reside in the First Middlesex Representative District. 3% (13) of admissions from the First Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the First Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 67% were male and 33% were female.
- 64% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 88% were white non-Latino, 2% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 67% were never married, 13% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 22% had less than high school education, 50% completed high school, and 28% had more than high school education.
- 39% were employed.
- 7% were homeless.
- 25% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	46%	41%	8%	3%	1%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
First Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	354	326	115	65	66	38	18
FY '96	264	242	79	36	53	29	19
FY '97	333	308	93	62	48	64	46
FY '98	389	342	137	95	66	98	72
FY '99	389	326	123	80	53	117	89
FY '00	412	333	115	95	67	140	105
FY '01	404	322	131	81	57	156	112
FY '02	461	340	137	128	61	201	162